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Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 SS-15 SSO-00 NSCE-00
SP-02 L-03 /057 W
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INFO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY GABORONE IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LAGOS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN NEW YORK 03456

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PORG, UNSC, SF, WA
SUBJECT: NAMIBIA: UK REPORT ON TAYLOR/SUMMERHAYES
CONVERSATION WITH MUDGE
UKUN HAS PASSED US FOLLOWING REPORT OF TAYLOR/SUMMERHAYES
CONVERSATION WITH DTA LEADER DIRK MUDGE:

BEGIN TEXT:

1. "ACTING ON THE PROPOSALS MADE BY THE NEW YORK CONTACT GROUP, JAY TAYLOR AND I FLEW FIRST TO WINDHOEK AND THEN TO SWAKOPMUND, WHERE DIRK MUDGE IS ON SHORT HOLIDAY. IN WINDHOEK I SAW SIR D SCOTT AND THIS ENABLED HIM TO DEPLOY SOME OF THE ARGUMENTS AT A LUNCH ALREADY ARRANGED WITH CONFIDENTIAL

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MARAIS AND DR AFRICA (DTA).

2. "IN SWAKOPMUND WE HAD 1 1/2 HOURS WITH MUDGE AND GAVE HIM AN ACCOUNT OF THE SITUATION IN NEW YORK BEFORE USING THE TALKING POINTS PROVIDED FOR US. MUDGE SAID HE HAD BEEN UNDER HEAVY PRESSURE FROM OTHER LEADING FIGURES IN THE DTA PARTICULARLY OVER THE ELECTION DATE BUT THE

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HERERO'S WERE "COMPLETELY STUBBORN" ON THIS. ON THE SIZE OF THE UN FORCE, MUDGE CLAIMED THAT THE PROPOSED FIGURE OF 7500 HAD COME AS A SURPRISE AND SHOCK TO HIM AND OTHER LEADERS. THE POSITION HAD BEEN MADE WORSE WHEN INTERNAL SWAPO HAD CLAIMED THAT THE UN FORCE WAS BEING SENT TO "ENCIRCLE" THE SADF AND THAT THEY WOULD BECOME AN "OCCUPATION FORCE" IN NAMIBIA. HE PERSONALLY BELIEVED THAT IT WOULD BE QUITE IMPOSSIBLE FOR UN TROOPS TO DETECT AND DEAL EFFECTIVELY WITH INFILTRATION: FOR A START THEY WOULD NOT EVEN BE ABLE TO RECOGNISE SWAPO OUT OF UNIFORM. IN PRACTICE, THE POLICE WOULD BE THE ONLY ONES CAPABLE OF STOPPING INFILTRATION.

3. AFTER WE HAD MADE A STRONG RE-STATEMENT OF THE FIVE'S VIEW THAT GENERAL PHILIPP HAD MADE A PROFESSIONAL ASSESSMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS OF HIS TASK AS MILITARY COMMANDER. MUDGE SAID THAT HE WOULD BE ABLE TO UNDERSTAND AND ACCEPT THE PROPOSALS BETTER IF A MORE SPECIFIC STATEMENT COULD BE MADE ABOUT THE TASKS OF THE UN FORCE. WE UNDERTOOK TO REPORT THIS REQUEST TO YOU, BUT ADDED THAT WHAT WE THOUGHT THE DTA WOULD WELCOME EVEN MORE WAS A POSITIVE DECLARATION BY SWAPO AND SOUTH AFRICA OF AN AGREEMENT ON AN EARLY AND EFFECTIVE CEASEFIRE. WE URGED THAT THE DTA SHOULD SUPPORT THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S PROPOSALS, AS OTHER PARTIES HAD ALREADY DONE.

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4. MUDGE THEN SAID HE WAS VERY GRATIFIED THAT WE HAD COME TO SEE HIM. HE WOULD SPEAK TO THE DTA REPRESENTATIVES IN NEW YORK WITHIN THE NEXT HOUR AND WOULD ALSO ARRANGE TO CALL A MEETING OF THE DTA EXECUTIVE WITHIN THE NEXT TWO DAYS, TO CONSIDER OUR PROPOSALS. WE URGED SPEED IN DOING THIS. MUDGE WILL FLY BACK EARLY TOMORROW TO WINDHOEK WHERE HE WILL SEE SIR D SCOTT AND TAYLOR FOR A FURTHER TALK BEFORE MEEGING HIS EXECUTIVE. ALTHOUGH HE FOUND IT NECESSARY TO GIVE US A STRONG EXPOSITION OF THE DTA POSITION, I BELIEVE THAT MUDGE WILL HELP US AS MUCH AS HE CAN. FINALLY, MUDGE TOLD US THAT HE WOULD NOW DESIST FROM, OR WOULD TONE DOWN, A STRONGLY CRITICAL STATEMENT ABOUT THE UN PROPOSALS WHICH HE HAD BEEN CONSIDERING FOR TONIGHT."

END TEXT. YOUNG

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